

## CLAIMS

1. An agent for improving a mental disorder due to cerebral dysfunction, comprising a hepatocyte growth factor.

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2. The agent according to claim 1, wherein the mental disorder is a decline in learning function.

3. The agent according to claim 1, wherein the mental  
10 disorder is a decline in memory function.

4. The agent according to claim 1, wherein the mental disorder is dementia.

15 5. An agent for inhibiting vascular hyperpermeability, comprising a hepatocyte growth factor.

6. The agent according to claim 5, wherein the vascular hyperpermeability is cerebrovascular hyperpermeability.

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7. A composition for improving a mental disorder due to cerebral dysfunction, comprising a hepatocyte growth factor and a pharmaceutically acceptable additive.

25 8. The composition according to claim 7, wherein the mental disorder is a decline in learning function.

9. The composition according to claim 7, wherein the mental disorder is a decline in memory function.

10. The composition according to claim 7, wherein the mental disorder is dementia.

5           11.       A composition for inhibiting vascular hyperpermeability, comprising a hepatocyte growth factor and a pharmaceutically acceptable additive.

12. The composition according to claim 11, wherein the  
10       vascular       hyperpermeability       is       cerebrovascular hyperpermeability.

13. A method of improving a mental disorder due to cerebral dysfunction, which comprises administering a  
15       hepatocyte growth factor to a mammal.

14. The method according to claim 13, wherein the mental disorder is a decline in learning function.

20           15. The method according to claim 13, wherein the mental disorder is a decline in memory function.

16. The method according to claim 13, wherein the mental disorder is dementia.

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17. A method of inhibiting vascular hyperpermeability, which comprises administering a hepatocyte growth factor to a mammal.

18. The method according to claim 17, wherein the vascular hyperpermeability is cerebrovascular hyperpermeability.

5 19. Use of a hepatocyte growth factor in producing a pharmaceutical preparation for inhibiting a mental disorder due to cerebral dysfunction.

20. The use according to claim 19, wherein the mental  
10 disorder is a decline in learning function.

21. The use according to claim 19, wherein the mental disorder is a decline in memory function.

15 22. The use according to claim 19, wherein the mental disorder is dementia.

23. Use of a hepatocyte growth factor in producing a pharmaceutical preparation for inhibiting vascular  
20 hyperpermeability.

24. The use according to claim 23, wherein the vascular hyperpermeability is cerebrovascular hyperpermeability.